

CAL FIRE NEWS RELEASE

California Department of Forestry and Fire Protection



Santa Clara Unit

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“Save the Ones You Love”

Morgan Hill, Ca – The Division of Boating and Waterways (DBW) and the CAL FIRE Santa Clara Unit are urging recreational boaters and water enthusiasts to take the necessary precautions this summer, starting with life jacket wear, to keep themselves and their loved ones safe. This summer season begins with some of the highest water levels and coldest water not seen or felt in many years. Swift and cold water can create treacherous conditions for everyone, including experienced swimmers.

Recreational boating fatalities related to swift water conditions are a tragic but yearly occurrence throughout California. These incidents are especially prevalent during California’s high water years. In the midst of the state’s drought or low water period of 2012-2016, DBW’s annual boating accident statistics confirm that 23 fatalities occurred in swift water conditions. During the state’s high water years of 1993, 1998, 2005, 2010 and 2011, that number more than doubled, with a total of 48 California residents losing their lives in swift water conditions.

DBW manages a number of safety programs and provides resources to encourage safe boating on California’s waterways. Below are California’s safety programs for 2017. The division encourages boaters and water enthusiasts to take advantage of these resources.

Life Jacket Loaner Stations In partnership with public and private entities, DBW provides life jackets to loaner boards within park units and loan stations so that an individual or family can borrow a life jacket for a day or a weekend by simply completing a loan form. [View Loaner Sites](#)

See list of local loaner sites on the following page.

For more boating and water safety information or laws, please visit BoatCalifornia.com

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Life Jacket Loaner Stations

Cal Fire

Alma – Sta. 13

19650 Santa Cruz Hwy.
Los Gatos, CA 95030
(408) 354-5050

Stevens Creek – Sta. 23

13326 Stevens Canyon Rd.
Cupertino, CA 95014
(408)867-3682

Almaden- Sta. 22

20255 McKean Rd.
San Jose, CA 95120
(408) 268-1600

Coyote- Sta. 21

Canada & Hot Springs Rd.
Gilroy, CA 95020
(408) 842-4012

Pacheco- Sta. 31

12280 Pacheco Pass Hwy
Hollister, CA 95023
(408) 842-4221 & (408)842-3628

South Santa Clara County Fire District

Tree Haven- Sta. 3

3050 Hecker Pass Rd.
Gilroy, CA 95020
(408) 842-3138

City of Morgan Hill

Dunne Hill- Sta. 5

2100 E. Dunne Ave
Morgan Hill, CA 95037
(408) 779-0250